

envisages coverage of 27,847 ha. at a cost of Rs. 27.84 crores; the WDPSCA proposals envisage coverage of 44,427 ha. at an estimated cost of Rs. 88.85 crores.

(c) During the IX Plan, 46 watersheds are under implementation with a total allocation of Rs. 18.00 crores under NWDPRA. Against which, the utilization of the funds by the State during first three years is only Rs. 7.78 crores. Keeping in view the limited capacity of the State for utilization of currently allocated funds, it does not appear feasible to take up additional watersheds during the IX Plan.

Total IX Plan outlay under the WDPSCA for seven North Eastern States is Rs. 75.00 crores. In view of the available resources it is not possible to allocate Rs. 88.85 crores to one State. Moreover, the peak utilization of the State in any one year has been Rs. 1.00 crore only. Hence 11 out of the 60 watersheds were included under the WDPSCA.

Subsidy to Drip Irrigation

2639. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government continue with the subsidy scheme provided to the drip irrigation;

(b) what is the impact of the scheme on its farming community in the used scarce water resources; and

(c) the total amount of requirement of subsidy sought by Karnataka State, and the details thereof and by when the amount will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir. Assistance for drip irrigation is being continued during the Ninth Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Horticulture through Plasticulture Interventions.

(b) Implementation of the scheme has created awareness about the positive role of drip irrigation in saving of water and

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improvement in productivity of horticultural crops, as a result of which the demand for installing drip irrigation system has increased by the farming community over the years.

(c) The Government of Karnataka has indicated a demand of Rs. 54.76 crores under the 'Plasticulture' scheme during 2000-01 for meeting the pending liabilities for the year 1999-2000. However, based on the availability of funds, the State Government was allocated a sum of Rs. 23.73 crores under the scheme during 1999-2000 and the entire amount was released to them. They have an unspent balance of Rs. 12.08 crores as on 1st April, 2000. During the current year the allocation for Karnataka under the scheme is Rs. 2.49 crores against which an amount of Rs. 2.00 crores has been released.

Kesar Mango

2640. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 'Kesar' Mango is very famous in Gujarat;
- (b) the special quality which it posses;
- (c) whether the maximum 'Kesar' Mango is exported to foreign countries;
- (d) if so, the quantity exported during the last three years, revenue earned; and
- (e) the reasons for not bringing it to Delhi, the capital of the Nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 'Kesar' variety of mango posses attractive shape, size and colour. It has unique aroma, abundant juice content, and good keeping quality and does not contain spongy tissue.